

Home & Away

Powell River's International Education Program News



Fun Ways to Learn English

It is almost guaranteed that your host student will learn more English if they are enjoying what they are doing, along with having some passion and tenacity to succeed.

As homestay parents you can help your student improve their English by encouraging them to obtain the lyrics to some popular English songs and have them sing along. One of our Brazilian students last year taught herself how to speak English at an early age by using this method. This student would also keep a list of any words that she didn't understand.

Watching English movies, first with subtitles and then without, helps students develop a passive vocabulary. Student's active vocabulary can be improved by learning different expressions and phrases. Students should be encouraged to incorporate any unusual expressions and slang words into their conversations.

Social media can also be used to improve English by having students communicate with English speaking friends through messaging and Skype. It is very important to have those one to one conversations in English.

First Impressions of Brooks and Canada

"I was nervous my first day at Brooks School but now it is more interesting and comfortable for me. All the teachers and students give you an opportunity to make friends and help me with my school work."

Canada has lots of rules so I feel safe when I ride my bike to school.

Powell River is an awesome place to live because they have good people and not too many accidents.

I have a nice homestay family that I spend time target shooting, gardening and playing croquet with."

Manuel Manjarrez – Mexico



Student Profile

Anni Lian – China

Despite being only 13 years old, Anni Lian has spent the last two years attending school in Powell River. This precocious grade 8 Brooks student, completed grades 6 and 7 at Westview Elementary.

When Anni first came to Canada, she worried about her level of English because she only knew a few words. "It was confusing when I started school here because it was difficult for me to understand some of the words that people were saying."

Anni's English skills quickly improved as she did a lot of reading and studying in English. "All my teachers, classmates plus my mom and older sister helped me to learn."

Last year Anni's English improved to the point where she played the parts of a storyteller, guard and knight in the community musical production, Shreck."It was really fun and I liked all my costumes."

This year Anni is looking forward to taking cooking and drama classes at Brooks. Her future plans include studying to be a teacher and working with young children.

Anni describes Powell River as being quiet, beautiful and having people who are friendly."I am glad that I came to study in Canada as I have met some new friends and my English has really improved."



(Anni, kayaking in beautiful Powell Lake)

Anni's mom Catherine, also enjoys living in Powell River. "I come from the very big and crowded city of Beijing, so I love the natural beauty and quiet, peaceful surroundings of where we live now."

Important Dates

- Monday October 12 – Thanksgiving Day Holiday
- Friday October 16 – Germany Exchange Students arrive
- Monday October 19 – Interim Reports mailed home

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